Lecture 2:
Image Classification pipeline

Image Classification: a core task in Computer Vision

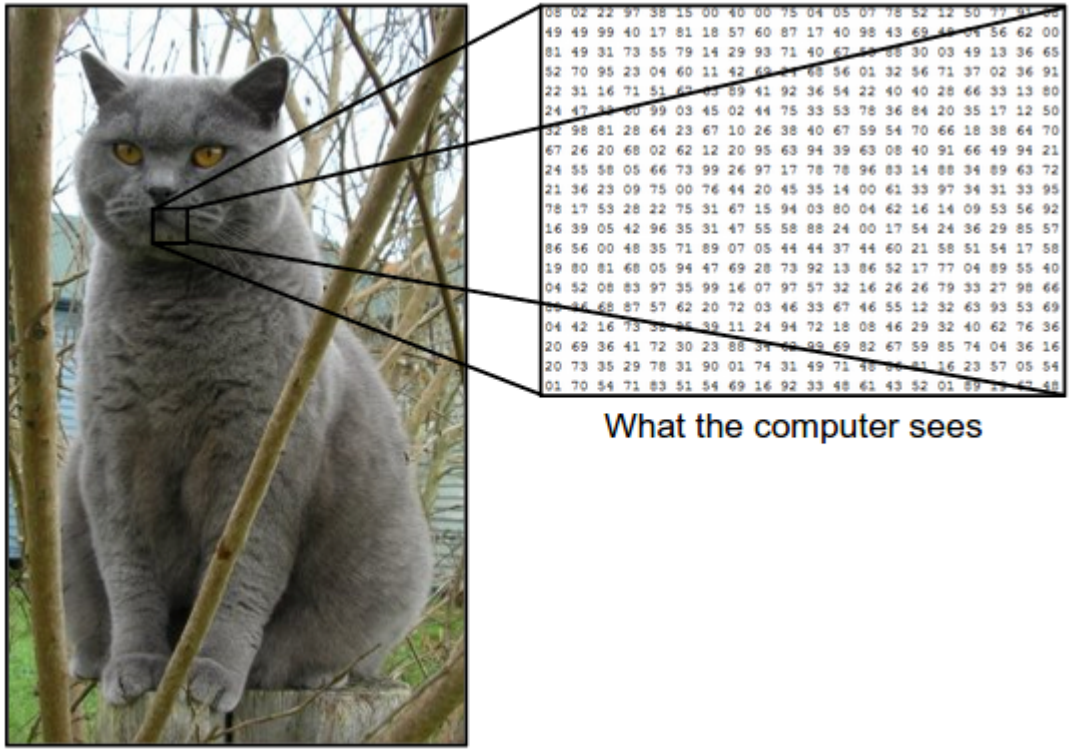
(assume given set of discrete labels)
{dog, cat, truck, plane, ...}

cat

The problem:
semantic gap

Images are represented as R^d arrays of numbers

- E.g. R^3 with integers between [0, 255], where d=3 represents 3 color channels (RGB)

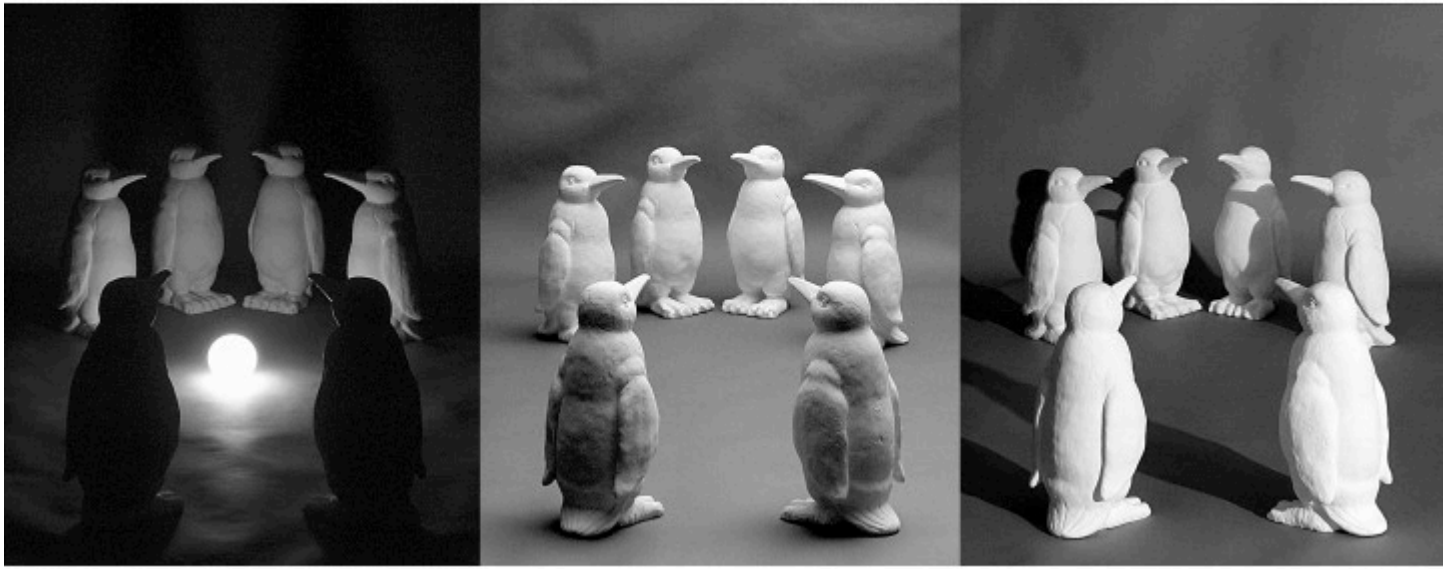


What the computer sees

Challenges: viewpoint variation

Michelangelo 1475-1564

Challenges: illumination



Challenges: scale

Challenges: deformation

Challenges: occlusion

Magritte, 1957

Challenges: background clutter

Kilmeny Niland. 1995

Challenges: intra-class variation






An image classifier

```
def predict(image):
    # ????
    return class_label
```

Unlike e.g. sorting a list of numbers,

no obvious way to hard-code the algorithm for recognizing a cat, or other classes.

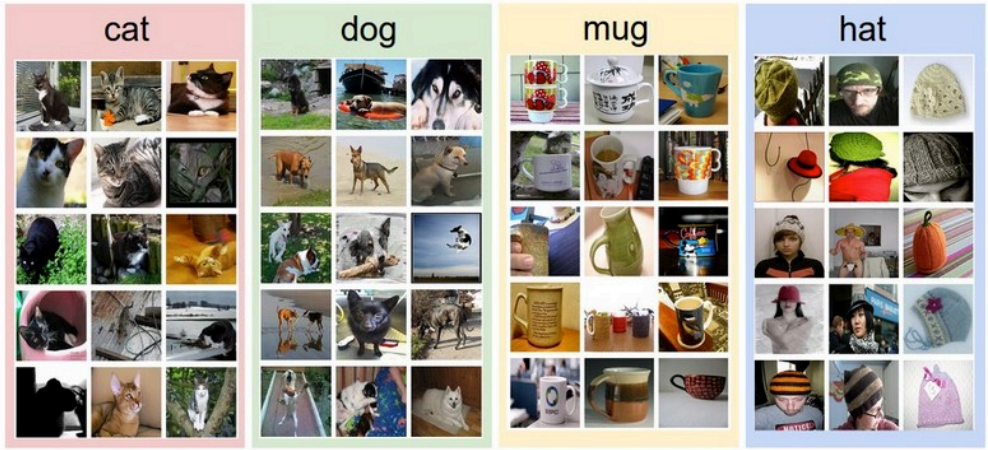
Data-driven approach:

1. Collect a dataset of images and label them
2. Use Machine Learning to train an image classifier
3. Evaluate the classifier on a withheld set of test images

```
def train(train_images, train_labels):
    # build a model of images -> labels

def predict(image):
    # evaluate the model on the image
    return class_label
```

Example training set



First classifier: **Nearest Neighbor Classifier**

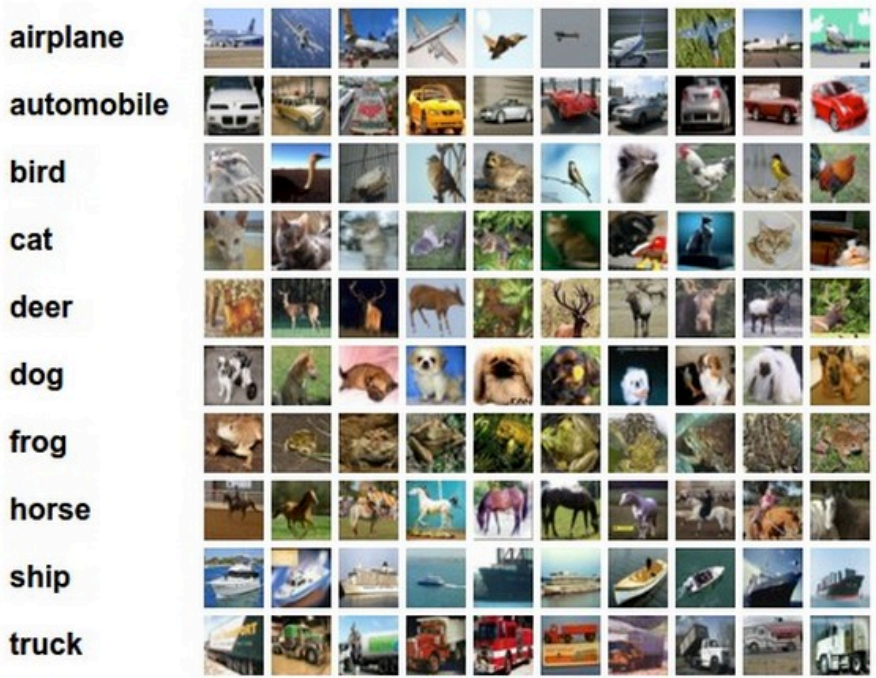
```
def train(train_images, train_labels):
    # build a model of images -> labels

def predict(image):
    # evaluate the model on the image
    return class_label
```

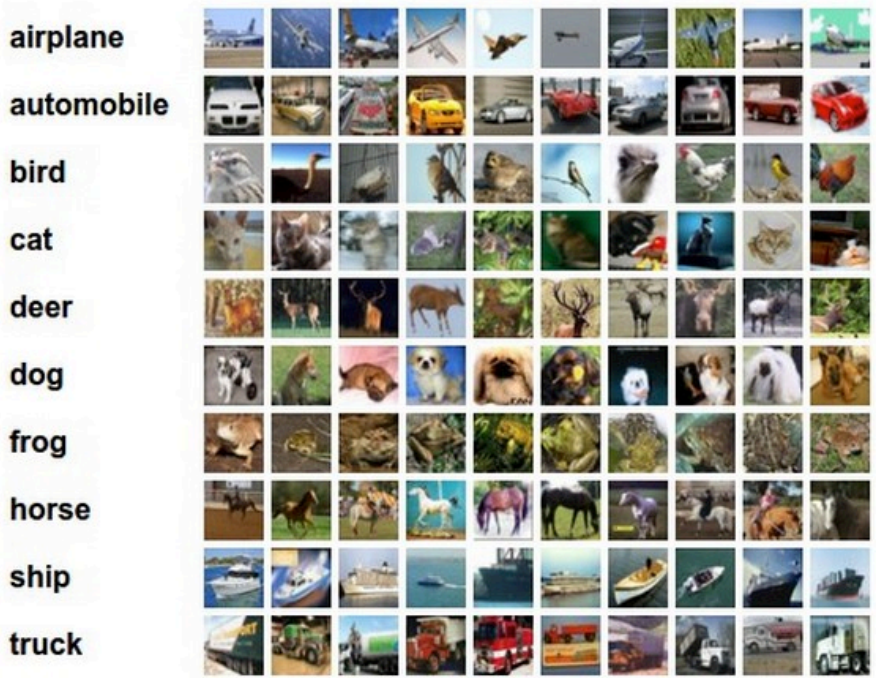
Remember all training images and their labels

Predict the label of the most similar training image

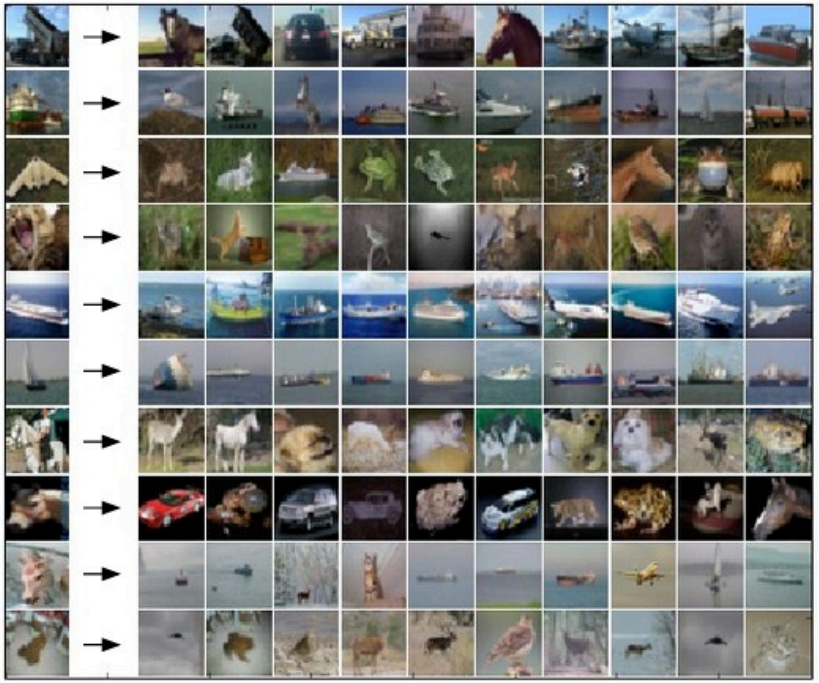
Example dataset: CIFAR-10
10 labels
50,000 training images
10,000 test images.



Example dataset: **CIFAR-10**
10 labels
50,000 training images
10,000 test images.



For every test image (first column), examples of nearest neighbors in rows

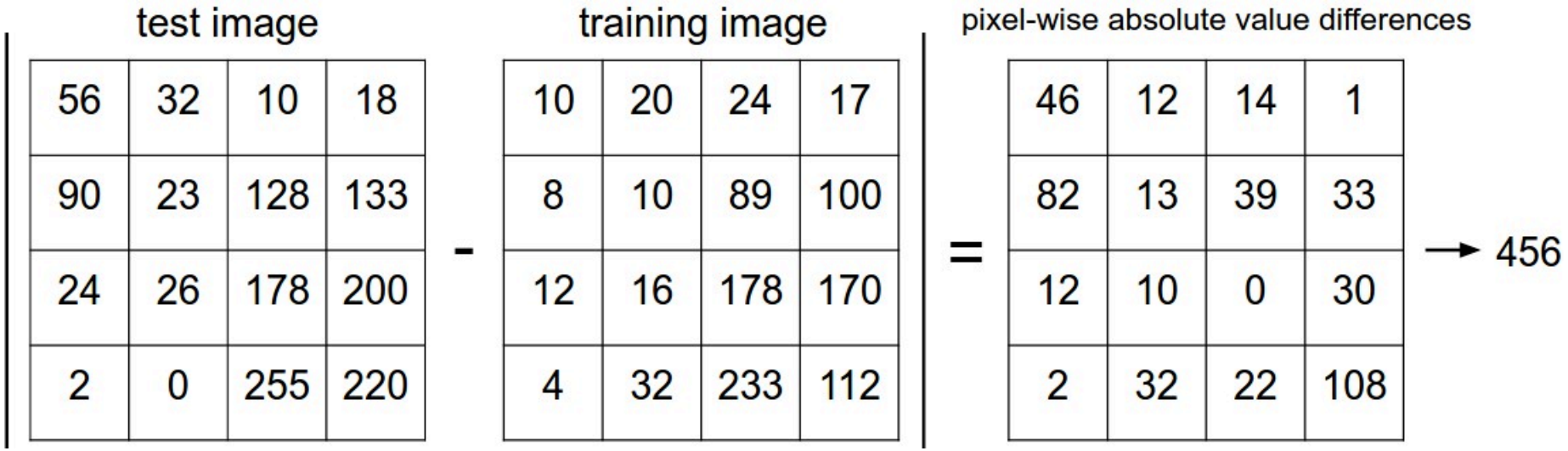


How do we compare the images? What is the **distance metric**?

L1 distance:

$$d_1(I_1, I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$

Where I_1 denotes image 1, and p denotes each pixel



Nearest Neighbor classifier

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

remember the training data

Nearest Neighbor classifier

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

for every test image:

- find nearest train image with L1 distance
- predict the label of nearest training image

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

Q: what is the complexity of the NN classifier w.r.t training set of N images and test set of M images?

1. at training time?

2. at test time?

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

Q: what is the complexity of the NN classifier w.r.t training set of N images and test set of M images?

1. at training time?

O(1)

1. at test time?

O(NM)

```python
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
  def __init__(self):
    pass

  def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
    self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y

  def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num_test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num_test):
      # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
      # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
      distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
      min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
      Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

1. at training time?

O(1)

2. at test time?

O(NM)

This is **backwards**:
- test time performance is usually much more important.
- CNNs flip this: expensive training, cheap test evaluation

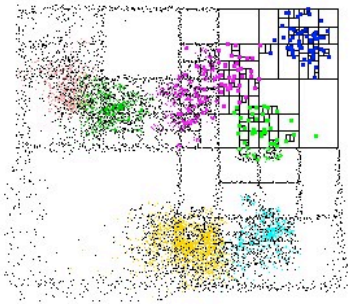
Aside: Approximate Nearest Neighbor
find approximate nearest neighbors quickly

ANN: A Library for Approximate Nearest Neighbor Searching

David M. Mount and Sunil Arya

Version 1.1.2

Release Date: Jan 27, 2010



What is ANN?

ANN is a library written in C++, which supports data structures and algorithms for both exact and approximate nearest neighbor searching in arbitrarily high dimensions.

In the nearest neighbor problem a set of data points in d-dimensional space is given. These points are preprocessed into a data structure, so that given any query point q, the nearest or generally k nearest points of P to q can be reported efficiently. The distance between two points can be defined in many ways. ANN assumes that distances are measured using any class of distance functions called Minkowski metrics. These include the well known Euclidean distance, Manhattan distance, and max distance.

Based on our own experience, ANN performs quite efficiently for point sets ranging in size from thousands to hundreds of thousands, and in dimensions as high as 20. (For applications in significantly higher dimensions, the results are rather spotty, but you might try it anyway.)

The library implements a number of different data structures, based on kd-trees and box-decomposition trees, and employs a couple of different search strategies.

The library also comes with test programs for measuring the quality of performance of ANN on any particular data sets, as well as programs for visualizing the structure of the geometric data structures.

FLANN - Fast Library for Approximate Nearest Neighbors

- Home
- News
- Publications
- Download
- Changelog
- Repository

What is FLANN?

FLANN is a library for performing fast approximate nearest neighbor searches in high dimensional spaces. It contains a collection of algorithms we found to work best for nearest neighbor search and a system for automatically choosing the best algorithm and optimum parameters depending on the dataset.

FLANN is written in C++ and contains bindings for the following languages: C, MATLAB and Python.

News

- (14 December 2012) Version 1.8.0 is out bringing incremental addition/removal of points to/from indexes
- (20 December 2011) Version 1.7.0 is out bringing two new index types and several other improvements.
- You can find binary installers for FLANN on the Point Cloud Library project page. Thanks to the PCL developers!
- Mac OS X users can install flann though MacPorts (thanks to Mark Moll for maintaining the Portfile)
- New release introducing an easier way to use custom distances, kd-tree implementation optimized for low dimensionality search and experimental MPI support
- New release introducing new C++ templated API, thread-safe search, save/load of indexes and more.
- The FLANN license was changed from LGPL to BSD.

How fast is it?

In our experiments we have found FLANN to be about one order of magnitude faster on many datasets (in query time), than previously available approximate nearest neighbor search software.

Publications

More information and experimental results can be found in the following papers:

- Marius Muja and David G. Lowe: **"Scalable Nearest Neighbor Algorithms for High Dimensional Data"**. Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (PAMI), Vol. 36, 2014. [PDF] [BibTeX]
- Marius Muja and David G. Lowe: **"Fast Matching of Binary Features"**. Conference on Computer and Robot Vision (CRV) 2012. [PDF] [BibTeX]
- Marius Muja and David G. Lowe, **"Fast Approximate Nearest Neighbors with Automatic Algorithm Configuration"**, in International Conference on Computer Vision Theory and Applications (VISAPP'09), 2009 [PDF] [BibTeX]

The choice of distance is a **hyperparameter**

L1 (Manhattan) distance

$$d_1(I_1, I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$

L2 (Euclidean) distance

$$d_2(I_1, I_2) = \sqrt{\sum_p \left(I_1^p - I_2^p\right)^2}$$

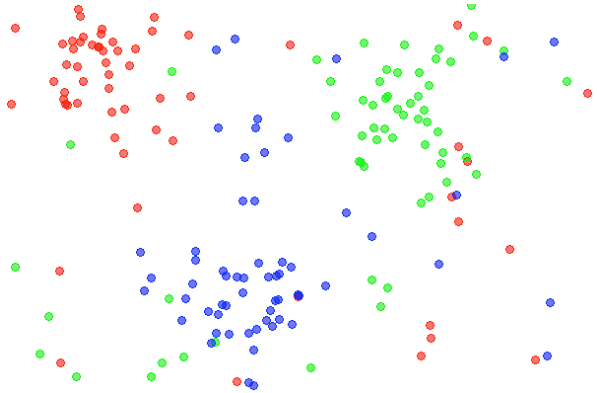
- Two most commonly used special cases of p-norm

$$||x||_p = \left(|x_1|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \qquad p \geq 1, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

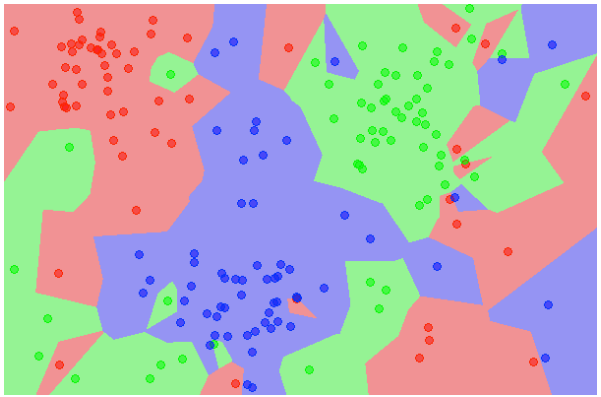
k-Nearest Neighbor

find the k nearest images, have them vote on the label

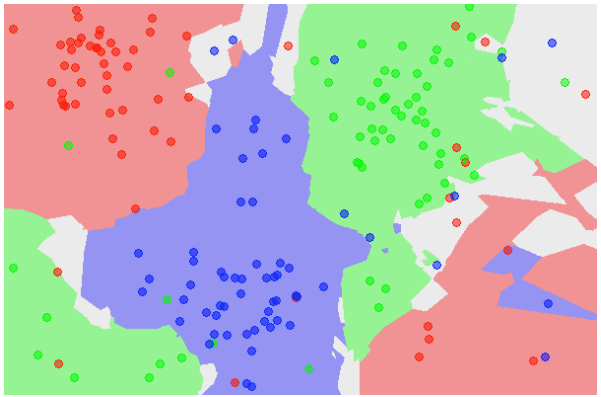
the data



NN classifier



5-NN classifier



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-nearest_neighbors_algorithm

What is the best **distance** to use?
What is the best value of **k** to use?

i.e. how do we set the **hyperparameters**?

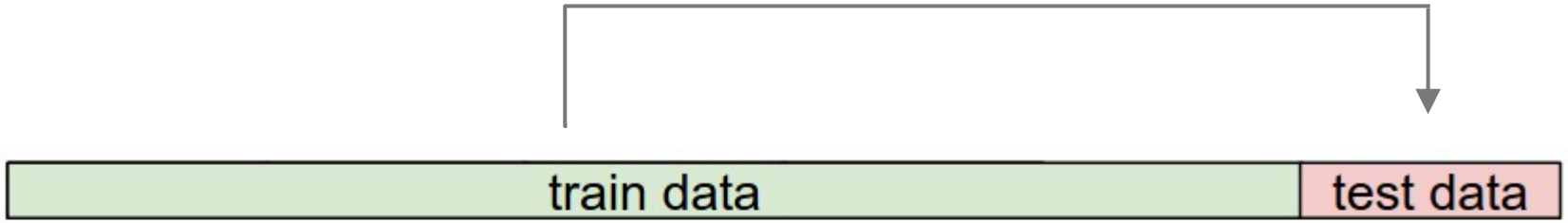
What is the best **distance** to use?
What is the best value of **k** to use?

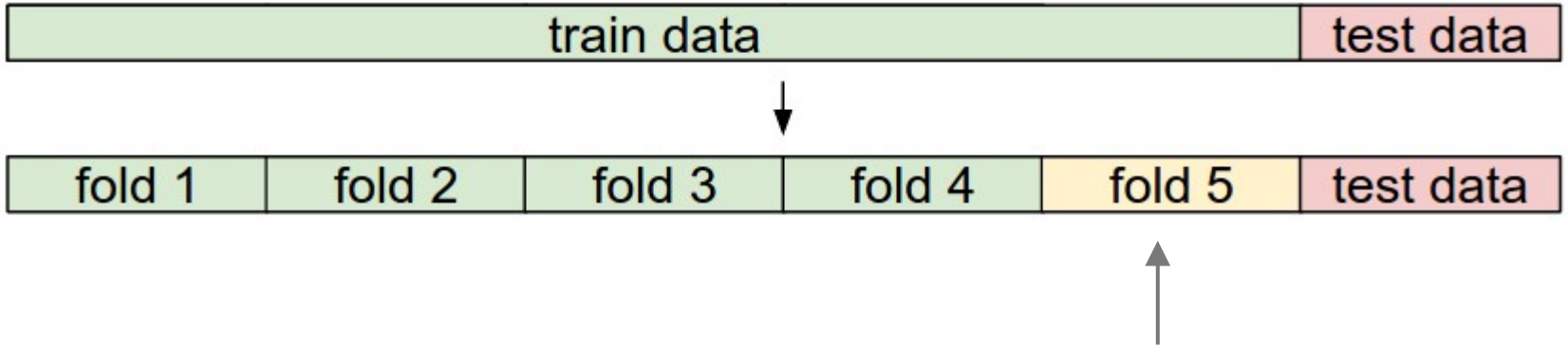
i.e. how do we set the **hyperparameters**?

Very problem-dependent.
Must try them all out and see what works best.

Trying out what hyperparameters work best on test set:

Very bad idea. The test set is a proxy for the generalization performance

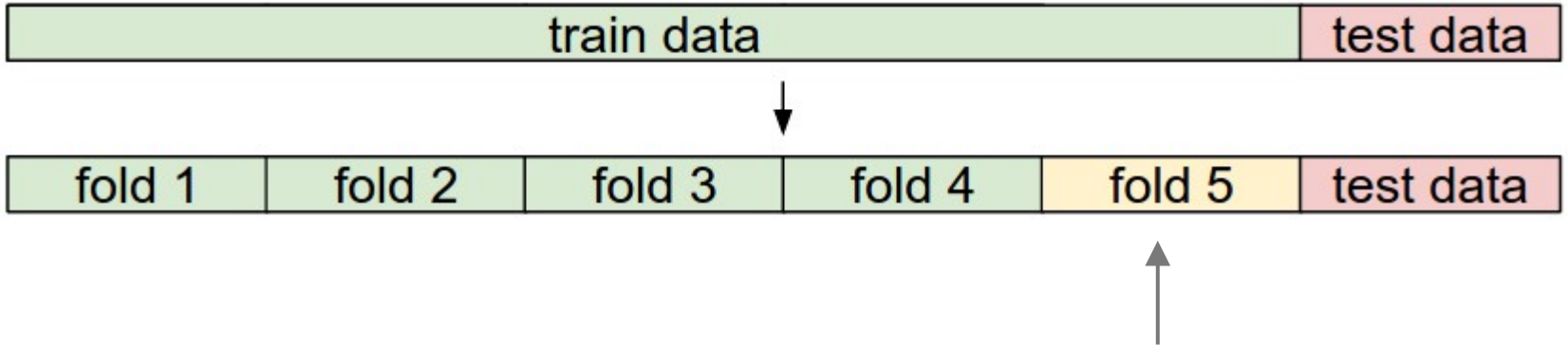




Validation data

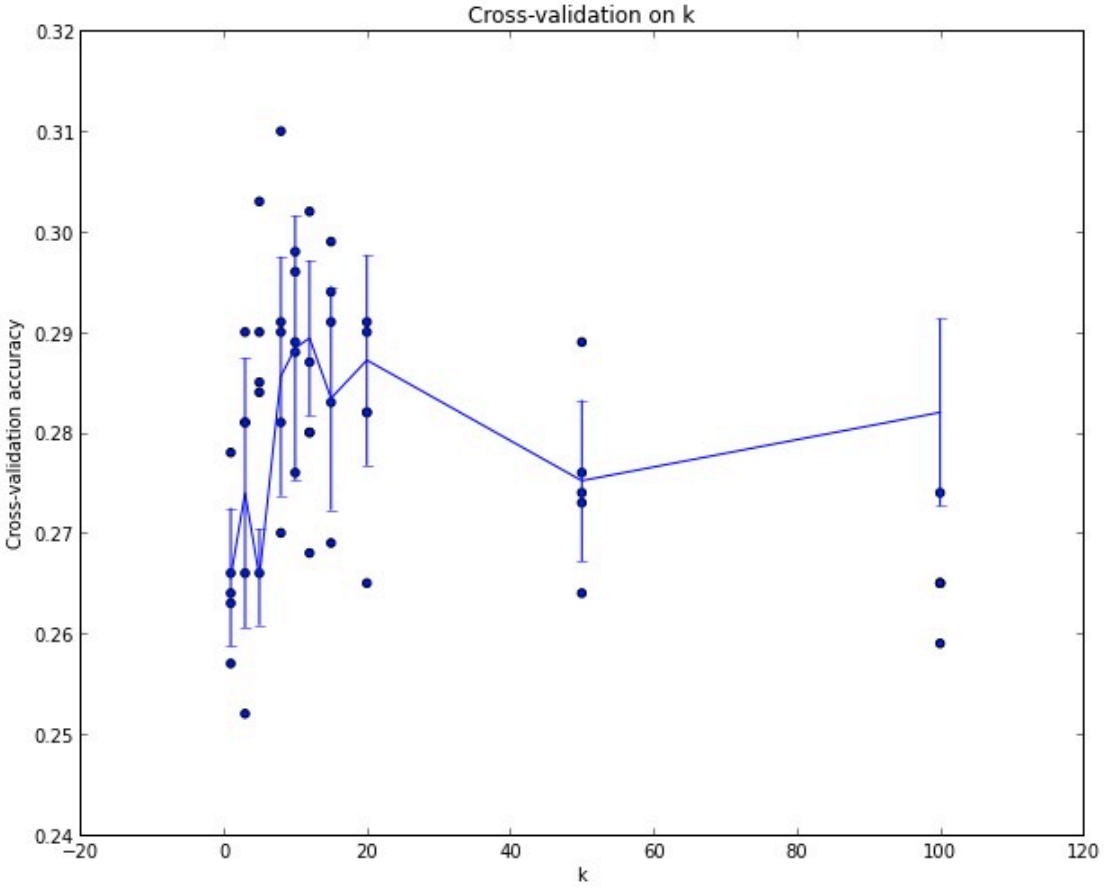
use to tune hyperparameters

evaluate on test set ONCE at the end



Cross-validation

cycle through the choice of which fold is the validation fold, average results.



Example of
5-fold cross-validation
for the value of **k**.

Each point: single
outcome.

The line goes
through the mean, bars
indicated standard
deviation

(Seems that k = 7 works best
for this data)

Summary

- **Image Classification:** We are given a **Training Set** of labeled images, asked to predict labels on **Test Set**. Common to report the **Accuracy** of predictions (fraction of correctly predicted images)
- We introduced the **k-Nearest Neighbor Classifier**, which predicts the labels based on nearest images in the training set
- We saw that the choice of distance and the value of k are **hyperparameters** that are tuned using a **validation set**, or through **cross-validation** if the size of the data is small.
- Once the best set of hyperparameters is chosen, the classifier is evaluated once on the test set.